implants, development of critical care devices, medical instrumentation and establishing a laboratory for tissue implants and transfer of technologies to industries for production. The Institute has also a programme for integrating social sciences with the health sciences. In hospital services, the old equipments are gradually replaced by modern equipments. The Institute has made progress in fields such as installation of MRI facilities, establishment of laser medical centre, improvement in rehabilitation services and setting up of a new division of Cellular and Molecular Cardiology. In academic programmes, Achuta Menon Centre for Health Science Studies undertakes Human Resource Development in clinical laboratory technologies, etc.

(c) DST has so far provided financial support to the extent of Rs. 49.12 crores (Plan Rs. 26.60 crores+Non-Plan Rs. 22.52 crores) from the beginning of the Eighth Plan period.

NHRC on education to children

849. SHRI RAM NATH KOVIND: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Justice Ranganath Misra, Chairman of NHRC, has in a letter addressed to various political parties sought the assistance of all national and regional parties to ensure that provision for free and compulsory education for all children below 14 years as enshrined in Article 45 of the Constitution becomes effective;

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal to make right to education a fundamental right to make the provision more effective and meaningful; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPTT. OF EDUCATION) (DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) In order to make provision of Article 45 of the Constitution more effective and meaningful; the National Policy on Education, as approved by Parliament in 1992, gives highest priority to universalisation of elementary education. It call for ensuring that free and compulsory education of satisfactory quality is provided to all children upto 14 years of age before we enter the twenty first century.

Financial problems of IITs.

850. SHRI RAHASBIHARI BARIK : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) in the country and location thereof;

(b) whether the IITs are facing serious financial problems; and

(c) if so, the steps taken to enhance allocation to IITs in order to remove financial crisis?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPTT. OF EDUCATION AND DEPTT. OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA): (a) There are six Indian Institutes of Technology in the country located at Kharagpur (West Bengal), Mumbai (Maharashtra), Madras (Tamil Nadu), Kanpur (Uttar Pradesh), Delhi (DCT) and Guwahati (Assam).

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

राष्ट्रीय जनसंख्या शिक्षा परियोजना

851. **श्री गोविन्द राम मिरी:** क्या स्वास्थ्य और परिवार कल्याण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या विभिन्न राज्यों में विशेषकर मध्य प्रदेश में राष्ट्रीय जनसंख्या शिक्षा परियोजना लागू की गई है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है;

(ग) क्या उक्त परियोजना के लिये संयुक्त राष्ट्र जनसंख्या निधि से धनराशि प्राप्त की जा रही है;